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WHITE HOUSE SUPPORT STAFF

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CIA/DCI

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Date: February 14, 1974

Item No.: WH #1

DIRECTOR: WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: SOUTH KOREAN PURGE

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The South Korean Government has announced a large-scale purge of government officials as part of an anti-corruption drive. So far many middle and high-grade tax officials and civil servants have been affected, and more dismissals are expected later in the month. The primary purpose of the purge is to demonstrate to the public the government's intention to "clean up" corruption. The purge has had a significant unsettling effect in the bureaucracy, where the action is intended to increase discipline. No major government leaders were included, and there is some skepticism in political circles over the lasting effects of the housecleaning.

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